

Questions for School Committee Submitted on Wednesday May 8, 2013

- 1) What positions in the central office are being proposed to be eliminated?
- 2) What courses are offered above and beyond the state mandated minimum? If none, why do we need a Curriculum Director?
- 3) Why do we continue to need a Business Manager when all services appear to be outsourced?
- 4) Why is there a clear and disproportionate level of reductions to the Elementary and High School budgets when compared to the Middle School?
- 5) What has been the cost of paying 2 Superintendents and where is that shown in the budget?
- 6) Moving forward, can an approved copy of the budget be posted on the website and updated as needed to see where the money is actually going?
- 7) With the high amount of special needs, is it really cost effective to eliminate the Social Worker and reduce H.S. Guidance?

I think most people can see that the school district doesn't have enough money to properly function. What our school Committee fails to see is that by not enacting the will of the people and operating with clarity and full disclosure, and enacting cuts the people want, there will never be a penny above the mandated minimum. The budget problem of the schools is within the realm of the S.C. to fix. It will take time and there will be pain along the way, but it can be done. Town departments like the Highway, Fire, and Senior Center seem likely to obtain funding they need because of the continued perception of successful and efficient operation, something not seen in the School District. I ask you take a hard look at your Central office administration and cut deeply to offset classroom and direct student programs. Even if this means falling on the sword and causing more harm in the short term, at least then you will have hard data to prove the need to the town and strengthen your credibility.

Respectfully Submitted,

John F. Goodrich II
15 Waid Rd.
Monson, MA 01057
JFGoodrichII@comcast.net